

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 06196 041831Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 /015 W
-----107018 050820Z /14
R 041715Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1833

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 6196

IO DIS ONLY

E.O. 11652 GDS
TAGS: APER, AORG, WFP
SUBJECT WFP: DEPUTY EXEC. DIRECTOR

REFS: A) ROME 5766; B) STATE 082300

1. WFP EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR VOGEL PHONED PAKER EARLY APRIL 4
TO REQUEST HE CALL PRIOR TO VOGEL'S DEPARTURE FOR LONDON ACC
MTG AROUND MIDDAY.

2. MAIN PURPOSE OF URGENCY OF REQUEST INVOLVED REPORT VOGEL
HAD RECEIVED BY TELEPHONE APRIL 3 FROM AHMED OF SUG'S OFFICE
THAT USUN HAD CALLED TO INQUIRE STATUS OF BRITO APPOINTMENT.
ACCORDING VOGEL, HE WAS TOLD THAT USUN HAD BEEN INFORMED THAT
SYG HAD APPROVED RECOMMENDED APPOINTMENT OF BRITO (AND OF U.S.
CANDIDATE CASHIN FOR NO. 3 WFP JOB) PRIOR TO DEPARTING FOR
LONDON ACC. VOGEL WAS APPARENTLY ALSO TOLD THAT USUN HAD
REFERRRED TO "PRESSURE" BEING PUT ON VOGEL BY SYG'S OFFICE,
AND THAT ASST. SEC.MAYNES WOULD WISH TO PURSUE MATTER WITH SYG
ON LATTER'S RETURN FROM LONDON.

3. WITH REGARD TO BRITO APPOINTMENT, VOGEL STATED HE
WANTED USG TO UNDERSTAND THAT HE HAD BEEN UNDER NO
PRESSURE FROM SYG'S OFFICE ON THIS APPOINTMENT. HE
IMPLIED, AS WELL, THAT IT WOULD BE EMBARRASSING TO HIM
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IF THE SYG THOUGHT THAT SUCH AN IMPRESSION HAD ORIGINATED
FROM HIM AND INDICATED THAT HE HAD BEEN AT PAINS TO
SET SYG'S OFFICE STRAIGHT ON THIS.

4. BAKER STATED THAT ON HIS RETURN TO ROME APRIL 3 HE
HAD REVIEWED REPORTING ON CONVERSATIONS HELD IN ROME
WITH VOGEL ON THIS SUBJECT AND COULD STATE THAT WE HAD

NOT ATTRIBUTED TO HIM ANY STATEMENT THAT HE HAD BEEN UNDER PRESSURE FROM SYG. FOR CLARIFICATION, HE ASKED WHETHER VOGEL WISHED IT UNDERSTOOD BY USG THAT HE HAD BEEN UNDER NO PRESSURE FROM NEW YORK (EMPHASIZING LAST TWO WORDS). VOGEL REPLIED IN AFFIRMATIVE BUT DID NOT SPECIFICALLY PICK UP IMPLIED DISTINCTION BETWEEN POSTURE OF SYG AND DG SAOUMA.

5. COMMENT: WHILE WE HAD NOTICED ON APRIL 3 CURIOUS REFERENCE IN REFTEL B TO "PRESSURE" FROM SUG WE HAD NOT EXPECTED THIS DISCREPANCY BETWEEN OUR REPORT (REFTEL A) AND REFTEL B TO COME BACK TO US QUITE SO FAST. WHILE SYG'S OFFICE MAY HAVE INDICATED PREFERENCE FOR A LATIN AMERICAN IN SUBJECT POST, IT HAS NEVER BEEN OUR VIEW THAT VOGEL WAS UNDER ANY PRESSURE FROM AS DISTINCT FRM SUPPORT BY SYG OR HIS OFFICE IN NAME BRITO. IF USUN HAS GIVEN AN IMPRESSION TO SYG'S OFFICE AS A RESULT OF REFTEL B, IT WOULD BE IN INTEREST OF ACCURACY, IN INTERESTS OF VOGEL, AND IN OUR OWN INTEREST TO AMEND IT PRIOR TO ANY FURTHER DISCUSSION WITH SYG ON THIS MATTER.HOLMES

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978ROME06196
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780146-0938
Format: TEL
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780495/aaaadcjn.tel
Line Count: 82
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 6f217db6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Reference: 78 ROME 5766, 78 STATE 82300
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3080698
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: WFP: DEPUTY EXEC. DIRECTOR
TAGS: APER, AORG, WFP
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/6f217db6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014